



## Pope Arrives in U.S. - Missionary of Capitalism

Thousands waited in St Peter's Square for the white smoke — the signal that a new Pope had been selected John Paul II, disciple of Peter and foremost representative of the Roman Catholic Church emerged to bless the crowd. His election signaled the beginning of a renewed effort to place the Vatican at the center of world events. John Paul's current world tour is part of that effort.

The first Polish pope has claimed the mantle of the first worker pope, a man of the people. Taking up the image of his predecessor, John XXII, John Paul seeks a reputation as the emissary of the poor and downtrodden.

This past year, he became a global traveler, taking the message of Catholicism to his worldwide flock. In Mexico, Poland, Ireland and now the U.S., John Paul addresses the pressing problem of each particular people and the questions of world peace. Beyond the plentiful prayers, blessings and masses, John Paul carries another message to a world plagued with poverty, exploitation and threats of war: the false promise of bourgeois ideology.

He bears old and tattered promises of heavenly reward for those who turn the other cheek, smoke filled visions to cloud clear perception of the problems of the people.

### Religion in a Troubled World

What does the visit of Pope John Paul mean for the people of the U.S., particularly the country's 48 million Catholics? For some, like the Polish of Chicago, it is a time of national pride. More importantly, for Catholic and non-Catholic alike, it is a time to

reflect upon the meaning of religion in their lives and the role it plays in the world today.

Daily life is hard for so many people, with little uplifting qualities. We are financially plagued by endless bills and debt, surrounded by cultural degeneracy and decadence. Broken marriages and crime abound. The threat of war looms and the world appears taken over by insanity, corruption and greed. Every man seems out for himself. Confusion and demoralization have taken over the hearts and minds of many.

For this the Pope and the church bear a double-edged message of hope. While they offer little solace for the problems of daily life, for poverty, illiteracy, crime or war, they hold visions

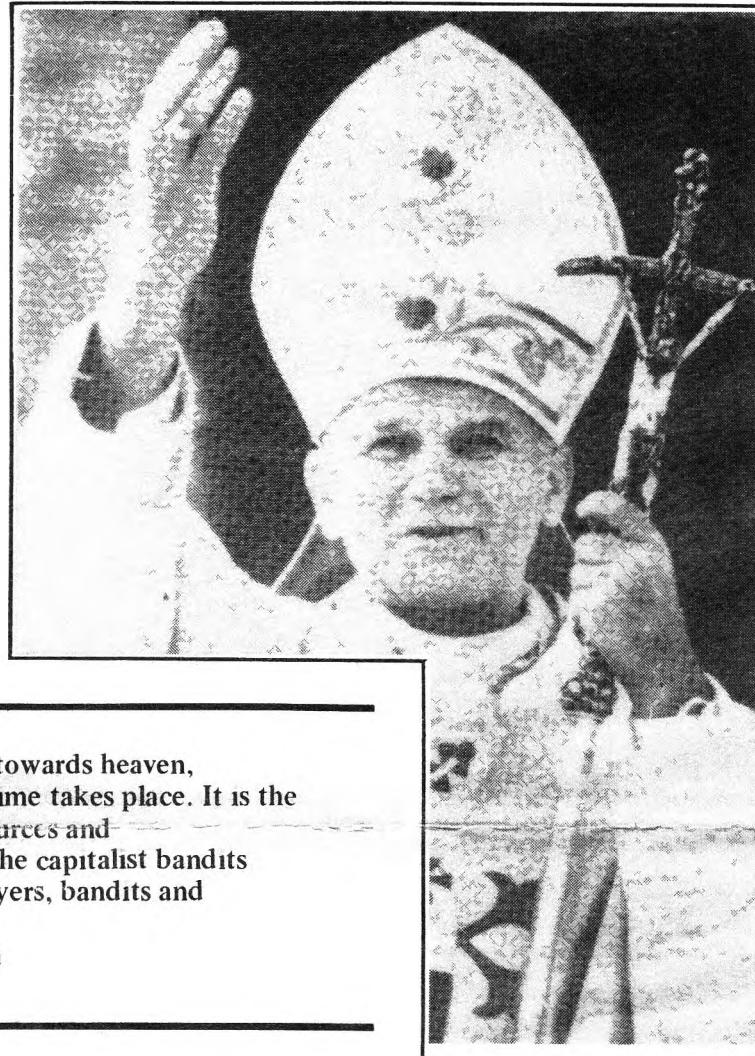
While the eyes are uplifted towards heaven, the greatest robbery of all time takes place. It is the robbery of the wealth, resources and the labor of the people by the capitalist bandits. Capitalism requires soothsayers, bandits and mystics to carry off this exploitation and oppression.

Visions of a better life, the possibility of miracles for a chosen few, soothing messages of brotherly love, patience and self-sacrifice. How often has the worn-out mother of six children cried, "If there was no God or heaven, there would be no sense to my life. These problems are the crosses I've been given to bear."

When John Paul II speaks, the millions remember the promise they were given at their baptism. They remember the countless stories of the saints told by the nuns at school. And they remember the horror stories of hell.

It is of little matter that the theories of the Catholic Church, of the "Holy Trinity", the "Immaculate Conception", of heaven and hell have no scientific basis. Religion provides a supernatural straw to be grasped at a time when meaning in life is hard to find and problems difficult to solve. But why when much of religion is myth, does it have a very real consequence?

When the Pope turns the eyes of the people toward heaven and the relic sellers breed hopes of miracles, the greatest miracle of the Catholic Church takes place. This miracle is not like the stories of Guadeloupe or of St. Paul's conversion. It is an old trick used for centuries by the ruling class to divert the attention of the oppressed away from their problems with promises of a better life when they leave this one. "Blessed



are the poor for they shall inherit the earth, blessed are the meek for their's shall be heaven."

With eyes uplifted the greatest robbery of all time takes place. It is the robbery of the world's wealth, resources and labor by the capitalist bandits. The capitalists need their soothsayers and magicians in order to carry this exploitation and oppression off. Catholicism and all religions play this social role.

### High Priest of Capitalism

The Catholic Church, in particular, has been central to world capitalism. There is no other single unified church organization which compares to the Catholic Church apparatus. Based upon its long history of close ties with the feudal and early capitalist states, the Church accumulated vast material wealth, land, resources and membership. While the ties between the Church and state are not as close today as in the past, the power of the Church empire remains. It is the strong hold from which it carries out the bourgeoisie's ideological campaign against the working and oppressed people of the world.

(Continued on page 4)

## Jesse Jackson and SCLC Tour Mid-East

National Reformists Aim to Subvert the Palestinian Struggle, Aid U.S. Imperialism

A new "peace keeping force" found its way to the Mid East in late September. Making international hay from the resignation of Andrew Young, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Reverend Jesse Jackson assumed the role of international diplomats.

"Militant" credentials in hand, these Black national reformists took over where Carter and Young left off. Proclaiming their "leadership" of the Black struggle in the 1960's, Jackson and the SCLC now pose as authorities on waging the battle for self-determination. The conditions they advance for peace in the Mid East reveal, however, whose calling card they presented to the Palestinian people.

Jackson says the Palestine Liberation Organization must give up the armed struggle and recognize the right of a separate Israeli state to exist. The Israeli Zionists, he says, must negotiate with the

PLO and pull back to the borders of 1967. The Zionists have agreed to this in the past but have failed to withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Jackson says these are the necessary first steps to "break the vicious cycle of terror and war." These are not militant demands, they are the policy of the U.S. bourgeoisie.

For decades, the U.S. has pledged to Israel that it will not open official talks with the PLO, yet the political realities of today mean such a stand is of little further use. Even the European capitalist countries have recognized the PLO as the official representative of the Palestinian people. The U.S. is finding its position more and more isolated, and its ability to maneuver for complete domination of the oil-rich and strategically located Mid East more restricted.

Jackson's and the SCLC's demands do not threaten Israel's continued existence as a strong

hold of U.S. imperialism. They do call for a weakening of the PLO position. Giving up the right of armed self defense and abandoning the armed struggle in favor of endless talks with the Zionists and imperialism spells doom for the Palestinian liberation movement. The "opposition" stance Jackson and the SCLC adopt will benefit the national reformists and serve the U.S. bourgeoisie. It is a Trojan horse for the Palestinian people.

As "opponents" of U.S. policy in the Mid East and advocates of "human rights" the national reformists enter the international limelight. This notoriety will place Jackson and the heads of the SCLC in the contender's spot for Andrew Young's old job or other such high placed seats in the bourgeois political structure.

Under the opposition facade Jackson has paraded through the streets of Tyre and Beirut, allow

(Continued on page 2)

## Organizing Avondale: ROUND ONE

"The recent firings of the main organizers of the union drive at Avondale shipyards and the ensuing struggle offer an opportunity to review the work and tactics of the Party in this drive."

turn to page 3

## In Memorium

### Albanian Comrade Hysni Kapo Dies

Comrade Hysni Kapo, Secretary of the Party of Labor of Albania, died on September 23, 1979 from cancer of the pancreas. Hysni Kapo was a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the PLA, member of the Council of Defense, Deputy of the People's Assembly and a member of the General Council of the Democratic Front.

Hysni Kapo was an outstanding leader of the PLA and the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. His life of revolutionary service to Marxism-Leninism began at an early age in the General Staff of the People's Liberation Army. Since 1943, he was a member of the Central Committee of the Party, and was elected to its

Political Bureau at the First Congress of the PLA. Comrade Kapo stands out in the history of Albania and the entire era as a consistent fighter against imperialism and revisionism, and a fighter of reknowned Leninist maturity.

Through the long struggle of resistance, the protracted period of socialist construction and the difficult and complex struggles against Titoite, Khrushchevite and Chinese revisionism, Comrade Kapo demonstrated the great knowledge and wisdom which comes only from the life of one who has always fought in the interests of the world proletariat and the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

Comrade Kapo was buried in Tirana at the National Martyrs Cemetery on September 27. The whole of Albania watched the ceremony on TV or listened on radio. On the grave of

Comrade Kapo wreaths were laid by Comrade Enver Hoxha, First Secretary of the CC of the PLA, and many other leaders of the Party, State and mass organizations. Raul Marco, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Spain/ML, presented a wreath as did other friends visiting Albania. Comrade Barry Weisberg of the Political Bureau of the CC of the CPUSA/ML sent a message of condolences on behalf of the CC of the Party.

The loss of Comrade Hysni Kapo is great, not only for the people of socialist Albania, but for the entire international proletariat and progressive people. Comrade Kapo was a Marxist-Leninist leader of world proportions, a comrade who was an example of revolutionary courage and determination for all those who fight reaction and opportunism.

## Editorials

### Returning to the Scene of the Crime

While thousands of unemployed victims of capitalist exploitation demonstrated in the streets of Peking, demanding jobs and social services, Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-p'ing raised a glass to toast his "very good friend" Richard Nixon. Like any thief who returns to the scene of his crime, Nixon visited China for the third time in his infamous career.

In the early 1970's Nixon helped engineer the reactionary U.S. China alliance. This courtship occurred while U.S. bombs blasted the people and lands of Vietnam and Cambodia. Now nine years later, Nixon has returned to survey the results of his mastermind imperialist plan. The courtship has blossomed into an ugly marriage. The people of China see all around them U.S. corporations with dollar signs in their eyes, scrambling for cheap labor and large reserves of natural resources. U.S. and allied technicians assist in the construction of a military machine which will turn the Chinese people into imperialist cannonfodder. Chinese troops have replaced the U.S. troops that pillaged Vietnam.

Nixon and Teng had much to discuss and gloat over as they sipped their cocktails.

But the Chinese revisionists have a few more aces up their sleeves, not so to the liking of U.S. imperialism. Opening up a series of talks in September with the Soviet social imperialists, the new mandarins of Peking showed that despite their demagogic about the Soviet Union being the main danger to the world's people, they are quite willing to work both sides of the street if it will help bring them to world power by the year 2000.

There is no honor among these revisionist thieves, no principles except never-ending service to capital. We condemn these thieves. The alliance set into full swing in the early 1970's has brought greater exploitation and misery to the world's people, increased the danger of imperialist war and given a momentary new breath of life to the dying imperialist system.

Watching Nixon and Teng smile and toast is a clear reminder of the role revisionism has played

### What's Fraser Selling Now?

It's hard to keep up with United Autoworkers' President Doug Fraser these days. As we go to press, Fraser, everyone's favorite liberal labor bureaucrat, has once again donned his white shoes and checker-ed sports coat to sell out the autoworkers.

Last month, Fraser proposed that if General Motors would promise not to raise the prices of their new cars, he would ask for no wage increase on the recently negotiated contract, leaving autoworkers totally at the mercy of the 18.6% rise in the cost of necessities this year. But Fraser has topped that. This week he offered the funds of the UAW itself to bail out the ailing Chrysler corporation!

During the recent negotiations, thousands of autoworkers demanding protection from the appetite of inflation could not get Fraser's attention. But now Fraser greedily looks at the pension funds, slickly taking out his pad and ballpoint pen to explain a new "deal". Fraser proclaims that this deal will bring autoworkers to control of the corporation, to control capitalism, to reform away wage slavery.

But what a slick talking rap this is! What a hard sell these reformists have! This is the fairplay of the reformists! Give the money of the union membership, the fruits of their exploitation at the hands of the capitalists, back to those same capitalists in order to solve their financial problems. Chrysler will be laughing all the way to the bank and the working class will be crying all the way back to the deadly squeal of the assembly line.

Doubtless Doug Fraser, the reformist salesman, will have another "deal" next week for the auto workers. We oppose these ghoulish transfusions of the sweat and blood of the working class into the ailing limbs of the capitalist octopus. We are out to kill the beast!

#### No Funds for Chrysler!



Jesse Jackson, seen visiting here with Jerusalem Mayor Kollek, has gone to the Mid East to promote the same bourgeois pacifism and national reformist program he tries to sell the Black masses at home.

### Mid-East...

(Continued from page 1)

ing the U.S. bourgeoisie's ambitions and influence greater penetration of the national revolution ary movement at home and a broad. The SCLC and Jackson have advanced the same contemp table position to the PLO that they advance to the Black masses. They condemn discrimination and demand democratic rights in words. But in the midst of the fight against national and class op pression, Jesse Jackson and the SCLC subvert and sabotage. In Birmingham, when the Black masses fought Klan and police attacks, the SCLC condemned the use of revolutionary violence and armed self defense. Instead they advocated the "weapon of prayer", calling upon people to pray for the police who shoot down Blacks, and begging people to "keep cool".

Just as Jackson and the SCLC demand that the Black masses cool down and rely on peaceful, non violent struggle to win their demands from a rapacious enemy, these traitors demand that the PLO do the same. Just as the na

tional reformists demand that the masses of working and oppressed people recognize the right of the bourgeois state to exist, and that they confine their struggle to reforming a fundamentally aggressive and exploitative system, they now demand the same of the PLO. These "conditions for peace", as they are called, are conditions for betrayal, for concilia tion with the enemy.

The Palestinian people have suffered too long and have learned far too many lessons about the nature of the Zionist state and its backer, U.S. imperialism, to fall for this Trojan horse and compromise their cause. The PLO must be recognized as the representative of the Palestinian people, but the terms cannot be the betrayal of the Palestinian cause. The Palestinian people will achieve victory in the battle against imperialism, Zionism and all reaction through the use of revolutionary strategy and tactics, not on the road advocated by the reactionary SCLC, Jesse Jackson and other national reformists.

Revolution Until Victory!

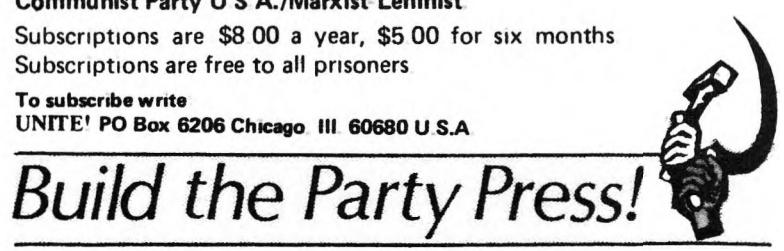
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#### CONTENTS

October 1 1979

Pope to Visit U.S.	1 Union Busting by the UAW
Rev. Jesse Jackson and SCLC	Johnnie Armstrong is
in the Mid East	1 Homeless, Again
In Memory of Hysni Kapo	2 Liberation League Organizes
Editorials	2 Against Police Terror
Organizing Avondale Round One	3 A Reply to the RCP

4 From the Third International Youth Camp
5 Anti-Klan Fight in California
U.S.-Mexico Oil Deal
5 From the Communist Party of Mexico/ML
6

7  
7  
8  
8

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## Every Factory Our Fortress

New Orleans, Louisiana, Black Nation — The recent firings of the main organizers of the union drive at Avondale shipyards and the ensuing struggle offer an opportunity to review the work and tactics of the Party in this drive. While many aspects of the Party's work bear a close look, this article will focus on two questions often raised in organizing drives: 1) Should the Party organize workers into reformist trade unions? 2) During an organizing campaign, should the Party promote the exposure of the union bureaucrats and the building of the revolutionary trade union opposition?

### The Reformist Unions and Organizing The Spider and the Fly

The Party and its predecessor, the Marxist Leninist Organizing Committee, targeted work at Avondale based upon strategic and tactical considerations. Any Marxist Leninist party recognizes the importance of concentrating its forces in order to strike a more decisive blow at the bourgeoisie. The decision of where to concentrate is based upon such considerations as which industries are essential to the economic life of the country and where there are large concentrations of industrial workers. Accordingly, our Party concentrates its main forces in steel, auto, and coal. In addition, because of the importance of the Black Belt South to the country's economy and the necessity to forge an alliance between the revolutionary trade union movement of the Black Nation and the entire multi-national proletariat, the Party also carries out major work in the Black Nation.

Within the South, the Party targeted Avondale because it is one of the kingpins in the entire South and the non union, "right to-work" front of the bourgeoisie. Avondale Shipyards Inc (ASI) is one of the largest industrial employers in the South. An organizing drive at ASI would clearly be a major development in the trade union movement in the US. Moreover, if carried out in a revolutionary manner, such a drive would provide important lessons for the entire industrial proletariat, be a major blow against the reformist trade union apparatus, and be a major advance in the struggle to develop the consciousness and organization of the working class as a whole. For these reasons, the Party recognized that the struggle to unionize Avondale would be a major battle between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat.

### The Consequences of Reformism

Two previous attempts to organize ASI by the Boilermakers Union, AFL-CIO failed. Though the drives were defeated almost 10 years ago, they have left a bitter legacy to this date. While the sentiment of the majority of workers is pro-union, the fear of and intimidation by the company is great. Avondale promotes itself as a "tough nut to crack", a theme also harped upon by the USWA.

So although unionization is foremost on the minds of workers, and the trade union bureaucrats agree to carrying out the drive, the campaign quickly brings to light the differences between those who seek to limit the workers' movement to the strug-

# Organizing Avondale: ROUND ONE

### Should the Party Organize Workers into the Reformist Trade Unions? A Review of Tactics and Work at Avondale

gle for reforms on one hand and our Party and the revolutionary trade union movement which fight for the emancipation of the working class, on the other

The reformists, the trade union officials, see unionization as the goal of the struggle in and of itself. After unionization, they confine the struggle to gaining a few more crumbs from the capitalists. In no way either during or after a union drive do reformists seek to fight against the system of capitalism, the source of the misery of the working class. Rather, the reformists aim to maintain capitalism.

The revolutionary opposition on the other hand, sees unionization as a single step in a revolutionary struggle. Unionization for the working class is an important component of increasing the ability of the workers to fight against capitalism. Unionization assists and trains workers to act as a collective body rather than as individuals. Second, unionization increases the consciousness of the working class which through its own experience can see that entering a reformist union by itself is not enough to end their exploitation and oppression. Consequently, participation in the trade unions increases workers' understanding about the nature of reformism and the necessity for revolutionary unionism. The trade union apparatus today in the US is a willing servant of the capitalist class, an extension of the bourgeoisie's state to suppress the struggles of the working class. This lesson is becoming clearer to the working class year by year.

### The Revolutionary Opposition

The revolutionary union opposition clearly differentiates itself from and is in opposition to the reformist union movement. The revolutionary trade union opposition recognizes that the treachery of reformism is the greatest obstacle in the trade union movement which prevents the direct confrontation between the capitalist class and the working class.

The revolutionary trade union opposition sets its sights beyond union recognition and any single contract struggle to the goal of building revolutionary trade unions and the eventual abolition of wage slavery.

Does this mean then, that because the reformist trade unions sell out the workers every step of the way, sabotage strikes and organizing drives and promote the interests of the capitalist class within the unions that workers should not be organized into these unions? Of course not.

The question of whether or not to organize a revolutionary union associated with the Trade Union Action League or to call in an existing reformist union like the USWA is a tactical question. At Avondale the decision was to

call in the USWA.

This decision was based upon several factors. The critical question was whether or not the workers themselves and the revolutionary opposition itself were prepared and ready to build a revolutionary union. While it is definitely true that workers are becoming increasingly disillusioned with the reformist trade unions, as reflected in the decline of union membership and the loss of union recognition elections, it is not the case that the majority recognize that the treachery is a direct result of reformist trade unionism. So to call for building a revolutionary trade union opposed to the reformist unions would be to go out in advance of the consciousness and preparedness of the workers. The majority of workers in the US are not yet prepared to abandon the reformist trade unions, nor convinced of the necessity of a revolutionary trade union which fights for the complete emancipation from wage slavery.

Therefore, the task of communists is to work in the reformist trade unions and win the workers away from the influence of reformism to a revolutionary perspective on the class struggle. As Lenin said, "To refuse to work in the reactionary trade unions means leaving the insufficiently developed or backward masses of workers under the influence of the reactionary leaders, the agents of the bourgeoisie, the labor aristocrats, or the 'workers who have become completely bourgeois' ("Left-Wing" Communism, An Infantile Disorder).

Directly related to the above question is the ability of the revolutionary trade union opposition to build a revolutionary union. It must be recognized that in the building of such a union, the bourgeoisie and the reformist trade union apparatus will use every weapon in their arsenal to sabotage, isolate and crush the drive.

The revolutionary trade union opposition in the US at this time lacks the necessary experience and resources to carry out such a major unionization campaign. Having been cut off from the rich experience and history of its revolutionary predecessors, the TUUL and the TUEL, as a result of the betrayal of the CPUSA, the movement is young. The TUAL has not yet conducted any major campaigns, and it needs to accumulate greater experience in fighting against the attacks of the capitalist class and its agents in the labor movement.

As a young organization, the TUAL is not yet widely known in the trade union movement and its influence over broad sections of the working class is not yet established.

In such a campaign it is very important that a wide section of the working class would come to actively support the drive. And because its influence is still

limited, the material resources for conducting the drive, estimated to run into the millions of dollars, are today beyond the abilities of the TUAL.

For these and other reasons, it was an absolutely sound decision not to attempt to build a revolutionary trade union at Avondale at this time, but to instead call in the USWA.

### Working Within a Reformist Union

How does the Party conduct its work inside a union organizing campaign "led" by a reformist union? The trade union officials maintain that any criticism of their activities or their reformist view is divisive. But this is a view that sees unionization as an end in itself, seeks to protect the bureaucrats' control of the union, and fails to recognize the historic failure of the reformist unions to successfully organize the major non-union Southern plants.

The workers themselves have seen how the USWA footdragged, detoured, lied and betrayed the campaign right from the beginning. There was one excuse after another for not releasing the union cards and committing themselves to the drive. For example, early in the drive they said there were not enough members in the organizing committee. When the committee was built to that number, they upped their requirements. Then when the key organizers were fired, there was no clearer example of their treachery. They refused to assist in the fight to get the workers rehired, they offered no financial assistance, and even stated that if there was any activity on the part of the workers themselves they would pull out of the drive!

In the face of this what must be explained to the workers? That these particular bureaucrats are just some bad eggs? How can the sentiment that it isn't possible to build a union at ASI given the reprisals of the company and the betrayal of the union be combatted unless the situation is explained?

To not criticize the trade union bureaucrats in the face of their treachery, to advocate that workers simply support the activities and policies of the bureaucrats is to abandon the working class to pessimism and betrayal. It is to leave the workers without a means to either consciously understand the source of the treachery or a means to fight against it. Therefore, it would be fundamentally incorrect for our Party to limit itself to the immediate task without regard to the development of the workers' consciousness and organization.

The Party must consistently educate the workers that the treachery they so clearly see in the activities of the bureaucrats is a direct result of collaboration with the capitalist class and

shows the use of the trade union apparatus to suppress the workers' movement. It is only by doing this that workers will be prepared to fight against the inevitable treachery of the reformist trade unions as workers at Newport News Shipyards faced a few months ago. At a critical point in the union drive, the USWA called off a recognition strike until legal decisions were made. They thereby opened the door to a full-scale police attack when the workers refused to end their strike.

But the Party must do more than simply educate, it must actively organize the workers. The opposition to betrayal must become an organized force which will mobilize the thousands of workers at the yard and build unity between workers of different nationalities. The bureaucrats, for their part, consciously undermine multi-national unity with such comments to white workers as, "You need a union because the Blacks are getting the best jobs in the yard." This opposition would take the drive to the entire working class to build support, a tactic the bureaucrats will do in nothing more than a half hearted manner if at all. These tasks require the building of a revolutionary trade union opposition organization.

That has been done at Avondale. It was the TUAL that took the lead in the fight against the firings of the union organizers, fighting both the company and the union. The demands to Avondale were for the reinstatement of the fired workers. The demands to the USWA were that they defend the fired workers and step up the organizing effort. The TUAL pickets at the union hall were attacked by the USWA and the Trotskyite Socialist Workers' Party (SWP) as divisive. But the workers have come to see that it was not the TUAL which was dividing the union drive, but the bureaucrats who sabotaged the drive from the very beginning.

The campaign at Avondale promises to be a long and difficult one, filled with many twists and turns. Later articles in UNITE! will explore the Party's work as this campaign develops and the experience becomes richer and deeper. One thing for now is certain, however: the campaign has been dealt a blow through the firings and the USWA treachery. We expect to see every weapon in the bourgeoisie's arsenal used against us in this campaign. But this time the bourgeoisie is going to be reckoning with a growing revolutionary movement among the workers and a young but fighting Party to guide that movement. The victory may not be soon, but it is foreseeable.

## Every Factory Our Fortress

# Union Busting

... as only the reformist trade unions can do it.

With the initials on the tentative auto agreement between General Motors and the UAW, hand shakes all around and the dates set for the rank and file to vote on the proposal, it would seem that the long awaited battle with America's giant auto industry is over. But the silent surrender is only the opening shot from the gun that UAW President Douglas Fraser holds to the head of the working class. In the upcoming weeks we look for Fraser to negotiate a special contract with Chrysler that, while wrapped in the theatrical makeup of social democratic and liberal schemes, will lay the working class at the feet of the auto capitalists.

Beyond the Chrysler sellout we look for the slow exposure of the real sellout in the GM contract during the next three years, not just the obvious sellout of wages and benefits, but a sellout in the political weapons of the rank and file. In this we think Fraser has proved himself a master at union busting.

#### A Step Backward At Chrysler

In past years one contract was negotiated with the target company, followed by a "me too" agreement with the other major auto companies. Though the first negotiation set the pattern, individual concessions were made to the other companies. Last contract, for example, Ford alone was allowed to hire part-time workers who received no union representation. In the early seventies during its "loss years" American Motors was allowed to lag behind the Big Three in its base rate. Now Fraser already admits great concessions will be made to the "ailing" Chrysler company.

The situation at Chrysler will provide Fraser with the opportunity to stage the next coup de grace of his liberal, social democratic career. Fraser plans to trade a liberalized workers' stock ownership plan and the resulting worker participation on Chrysler's board of directors for a contract in which autoworkers will take an extra beating on wages, pensions and work conditions.

One of the great "achievements" in the GM contract this year was a liberalized stock ownership plan which will yield a "colossal \$35 in stock per year to a worker making \$17,500" if, and we repeat if, the government grants extra tax relief to the corporation and higher taxes to the working class. This worker management plan is pure social democratic hype and will yield no more relief from exploitation than it does for workers in capitalist Europe or "socialist" Yugoslavia.

It will satisfy the Trotskyites, reformists and social democrats in Fraser's Progressive Alliance who believe that the problem is not exploitation but alienation, who believe that the workers simply need more respect, not liberation, a new arrangement with the capitalists rather than a revolution. It will never satisfy

the Chrysler workers whose continued exploitation is aided and abetted by Fraser's reformist shell game.

#### A Step Backward for the Union

The current contract agreement holds other surprise setbacks in store for the rank and file as well. It does for GM what the last contract did for Ford. It allows GM to superexploit new hires, creating a large labor pool which can be used at substandard wages against the rest of the autoworkers. New hires may be paid 35 to 60 cents an hour less than regular workers, and the point at which new hires may receive the base rate can be left to the discretion of a joint union company committee. This committee decides, with no time limits, when the new hire is "proficient" enough to receive full rate. Just as when Ford was allowed to hire temporary part timers (who sometimes keep their part time status for years) the new contract provision holds the door wide open for GM to engage in that time honored capitalist practice of firing on the 89th day, constantly replacing workers at substandard wages. This is union busting as only a reformist union president could do it.

But even Fraser's great claim to union building in this last contract is flawed. Fraser claims to have solved the problem of GM's Southern Strategy, which was to smash the UAW by moving auto production to the non union South. But a close look at Fraser's resolution of the problem shows it is no resolution at all. It is clearly not a guarantee of automatic recognition and even less a guarantee of uniform wages and working conditions in the auto industry. It contains major flaws. First, even if implemented, the agreement covers only those plants opened in the next three years, requiring the union to fight this battle all over again in 1982.

Second, the UAW agrees to a period of "start up" in which the company is free to set up "efficient" operations without supervision by the union. This allows GM to set up a system of super exploitative rates which could only be changed by the interminable grievance procedure at the end of the "start up" period. (And how long is that?)

Third, the national contract, even if applied to these Southern plants, leaves the door open for the capitalists to maintain the widely varying and substandard wage rates and working conditions that prevail in the South. The standard set by the national contract is not for the base rate, but only for uniform percentage raises. Implemented on top of substandard wages this uniformity will only increase the differences in pay scales between Northern and Southern plants and increase the exploitation of Southern workers. The result is to leave GM's Southern Strategy absolutely intact, except that the UAW will now collect dues from the Southern workers too. This is

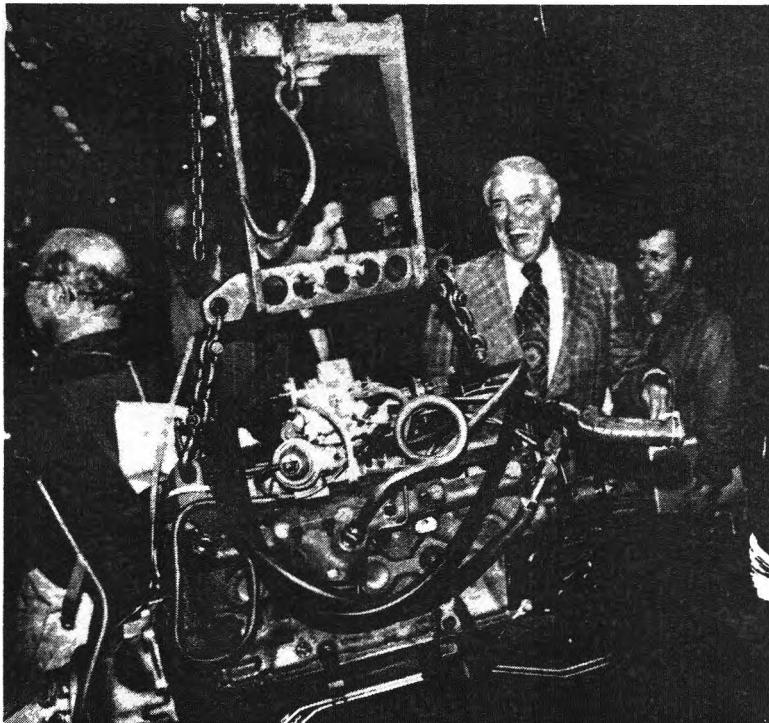
union busting as only a reformist union president can do it.

#### Economic and Political Losses

It appeared from the first that this contract would be a sellout on the basis of wages, COLA, pensions and shorter work time. But even more important than these losses are the political losses which will work to cripple the militant union struggle for years to come.

Over a year ago the coal operators were most interested in breaking the wildcat movement and instituting the divisive system of incentives, figuring that once politically crippled, inflicting economic losses on the coal miners would follow. In the same way the auto capitalists with the union's help seek to strip the autoworkers politically and divide them North from South, Black from white, part time from full time, new hire from veteran, maintaining large pools of labor at substandard wages and conditions. Despite all the chest thumping

#### More on the Tentative Auto Contract



Fraser tells auto workers at a Ford plant in New Jersey, "I've got a strong emotional attachment to the workers" But the sellout contract he just negotiated speaks far louder than his words

and boasting, these are the losses brought to the UAW membership in this contract.

push this contract for ratification this week

These are the reformist standard bearers of labor peace, the class collaborators who pat you on the back and with a wink of the eye take the weapons from your hands, weapons needed to fight for the end of wage slavery. This is union busting as only the reformist unions can do it.



(Continued from page 1)

The Catholic Church has built up a tremendous apparatus in the US. From the network of 18,000 elementary and secondary schools, its hospitals, retirement homes, orphanages, homes for unwed mothers, social clubs and youth camps to its 94 publishing houses, the Church has created a network knitting its membership together, greatly increasing the political power and ideological influence of its apparatus.

The great service the Church provides the capitalists does not come without reward. The state's "Sunday collection" to Church work is comprised of tax exemptions on all church owned property, subsidy programs such as Total Community Action, FHA and AID, and the financing of various church functions such as the Pope's visit.

In addition to its main ideological task, the Church also provides other services to the capitalists. Catholic missionaries have long been accomplices of the CIA. Prior to the CIA coup in Chile, the Jesuit order and other Catholic agencies were granted several million dollars per year to

## The Pope's Visit...

carry out their work in that country.

The Church also engages in capitalist enterprises as well. The Jesuits are one of the largest single shareholders in Republic Steel, the Boeing Company and Lockheed. They also have a controlling interest in Phillips Oil Company. The Christian Brothers order is known for its brandy.

While the Church has everyone else looking after heavenly matters, its own business agents pursue very earthly matters indeed.

#### Ensuring Ideological Enslavement

But it must be stressed that the Church's other endeavors are secondary to its main role in the world ensuring the ideological enslavement of the working and oppressed people to capitalism.

With capitalism in an ever deepening crisis, the Church must play a greater and greater role. Whether in Mexico, Ireland, Poland or the US, the bourgeoisie must place the burden of the crisis on the backs of the working people. The bourgeoisie knows, however, this results in growing resistance. The Church is called upon to step up its ideological work to divert this resistance.

It was no accident John Paul was selected Pope at this time of capitalist crisis. He uses his class and national background and the "man of the people" image to make further inroads into the ranks of the world's working and oppressed people. His trip to Poland was an obvious boon to the Church, but it was also a great service to Western capital. While the Church provides a service to the bourgeoisie as a class, in the main it serves the imperialist bloc headed by the US. While US

imperialism already has economic inroads into Poland and other Eastern European countries, with an insatiable appetite it strives for always greater control. The Church's ideological penetration into Eastern Europe clears a wider path for further US penetration.

The new Pope's trips to Mexico and Ireland, his proclamations about the Mid East, are designed to undercut the struggle of the oppressed people fighting against imperialist domination and exploitation. In the US the Pope will be entertained by the bourgeoisie and political leaders, but the millions who will throng to greet him and receive his blessings will be working people.

After the Pope is gone the economic, political and social problems will remain. The bourgeois salve he administers will not change these real life conditions, only cover them, thinly, for the time being. Like the smoke which rose from St Peter's Basilica, the visions John Paul creates will eventually evaporate. More importantly, the ideological influence of the Church and religion overall will not clear of its own accord. The struggle against this bourgeois aggression must be fought, just as the economic and political control of the bourgeoisie must be fought. Only by waging the class struggle on all three fronts will capitalism's final demise be brought about. It is only with the downfall of capitalism, the most vicious and exploitative system the world has ever known, that the false straws of hope will no longer be necessary. These false dreams will be replaced with the very real construction of a better, socialist society here on earth.

## For Democracy and Socialism!

# Johnnie Armstrong is Homeless, Again

**New Orleans, Louisiana, Black Nation** — Johnnie Mable Armstrong, 64 years of age, has been evicted from her home twice in the past two years. She has been disabled for over 19 years and unable to work. Her only source of income is a social security check.

In 1977, Mrs. Armstrong received \$179.80 a month to pay for rent, food, clothing, utilities and other necessities. Her rent alone was \$89.00 a month.

In July of 1977, while recuperating from major surgery and a long hospital stay, Mrs. Armstrong was evicted. For three months she was harassed and pressured to move. She paid rent each of those three months but the landlord refused her check.

He wanted Johnnie Armstrong out immediately. The realtor handling the property bluntly told Mrs. Armstrong, "You're holding up this sale and costing my client \$55,000."

Under court order the county sheriff threw Mrs. Armstrong's belongings into the street. The small, five room house was sold for an inflated \$55,000, making the landlord and realtor a handsome profit. Mrs. Armstrong ended up homeless. For a week she slept in the bus terminal and the waiting room of a local hospital. \$2,000 worth of her belongings, left in the street that first day, were stolen.

Finally she rented an old four room apartment in the rear of a storefront with assistance

from a rental program sponsored by the New Orleans Housing Authority that supplemented her rent. The program could have lasted indefinitely with yearly renewals, but after the first year, the landlord who had arranged for Mrs. Armstrong to qualify for the assistance program raised her rent above the maximum level allowed. Unable to pay rent of \$150.00 a month from her social security check of \$208.00, Mrs. Armstrong was once more thrown into the streets. Shortly afterwards the building was sold.

Mrs. Armstrong, along with hundreds of ill and elderly people are victims of capitalist oppression. Working men and women are cast aside when they are too old or sick to work, unwanted and unattended after a life of wage slavery in service to the capitalist class. It is a crime of capitalism which forces a person to exist on \$208.00 a month when the cost of sub standard living is hundreds of dollars more a month. This is no kind of life for our elderly people. They are treated like broken down machines, discarded for scrap.

Satisfying the needs of people for decent housing, clothing, food, medical care and other of life's necessities is not the goal of capitalism. Houses are nothing but commodities to be bought and sold for greater and greater profits by speculators and landlords, regardless of the effect on the lives of thousands of Johnnie



**Mrs. Johnnie Mabel Armstrong, evicted from her home for the second time in two years, is a victim of capitalist oppression. Under capitalism, people's need for housing comes second to the profits of landlords, realtors and speculators.** (photo by Lionel Cottier Jr.)

Armstrongs. The goal of capitalism is profit. From this flows the exploitation and misery of working people.

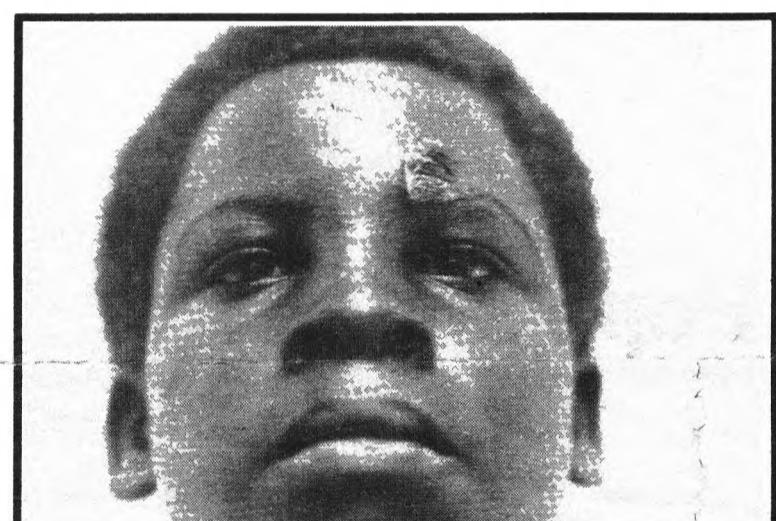
The CPUSA/ML condemns the treatment of Johnnie Armstrong and all the others who are sick, disabled, poverty-stricken on fixed incomes, or denied adequate basic necessities. Our Party states in its program and fights for:

**Economic, social and cultural support in old age, or in event of illness or loss of ability to work, with income equal to the average pay of industrial workers, to be paid at the expense of the capitalists and government, and**

**The right to inexpensive and quality housing, food and transportation. Free medical care.**

The solution for the Johnnie Armstrongs of this country lies in a new system of socialism, where the well-being of the working class — economically, culturally and spiritually — is the primary concern and objective.

Mrs. Armstrong is temporarily at her daughter's home, for she has been unable to find a place to live. Any assistance and help in finding housing should be directed to 614 North Hagan Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70119. ■



**Tony Deal, age 13, said, "If you help me fight police brutality, I promise I'll stand by you 100% if your child is beaten."** (Liberation League photo)

## Liberation League Organizes Against Police Terror

**"All children get into little scraps and arguments, this is a part of growing up. This is not cause for them to be whipped like dogs and dragged to jail."**

**New Orleans, Louisiana, Black Nation** — On Sunday, September 16, three Black kids got into a minor street fight, as kids often do. Instead of demanding that they break it up and go home, two Black police officers grabbed 13 year old Tony Deal and beat him about the face with a slap jack, and then threw him into a police car. Tony Deal has a concussion and faces the real possibility of permanent eye damage. To cover for this naked terror, the police charged Deal with aggravated assault.

The community responded with outrage. People went to the station with Deal's mother demanding to know why her son had been beaten and that he be released. Liberation League members heard about this and immediately went into the community to agitate against this

police terror. Concrete ways of organizing against police terror were discussed.

On September 25, the Liberation League called a meeting to organize the 6th District community against this brutal beating. A great number of angered parents, children and organizations including the CPUSA/ML attended. The enthusiastic group resolved to work wholeheartedly on this case until the cops are fired and the New Orleans police understand in no uncertain terms that people will not sit idly by and allow this terror to continue.

The meeting ended after concrete plans of work and demands were drawn up. The LL and community will sponsor pickets in front of the 6th district police station every Saturday until the officers responsible are fired. The immediate demands are:

- 1 Erase the arrest records of the three young people!
- 2 Compensate the families for damage suffered!
- 3 Prosecute and fire the police officers involved in the beating for their crimes!
- 4 End police terror in our community!

### Anti-Nazi Protest

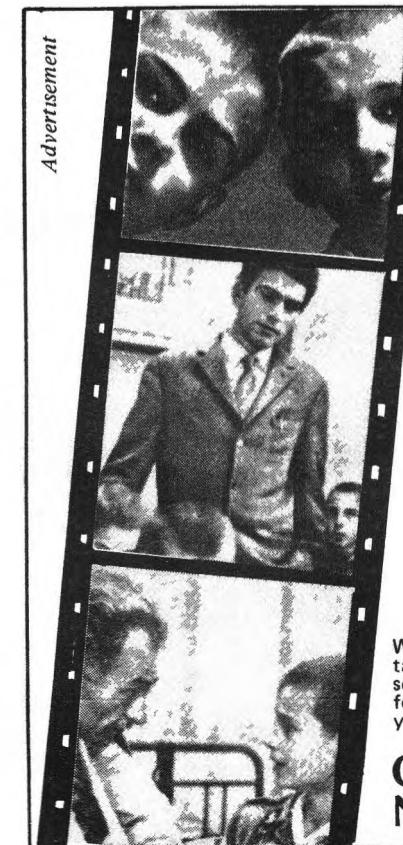
**Gary, Indiana** — Supporters of Dean and Harper have linked up their struggle to the fight against Nazism. On September 29, \$600 was raised at a benefit dance for Dean and Harper, two Black youths framed on a rape charge in northern Indiana. Lee Rose of the Liberation League and member of the CPUSA/ML called upon people to join in the fight against the Nazis who were

to hold a rally the following day.

Under the screaming banner of White Power the Nazis rallied in Chicago's Gage Park, an area scarred with conflict between Blacks and whites. White members of the LL and the Party mobilized a counter protest. Grandstanding for neighborhood youth who had gathered, Nazi leader Jones hurled attacks against Blacks, Jews, Hispanics and any white who was not a

Nazi sympathizer.

The confrontation was a battle for the minds and support of the white youth who live every day under the heavy hand of tension and conflict. The Nazis were countered by LL leaflets and speakers who pointed out that the enemy was not Blacks but the capitalist class and that the solution was not fascism but a multi-national fight against capitalism.



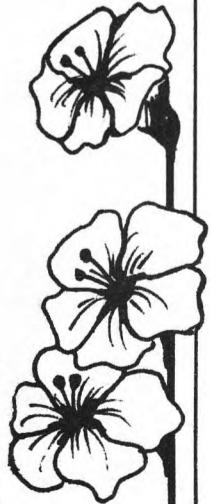
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# For Democracy and Socialism!

Last in a Series

This is the fourth part of a series on the Revolutionary Communist Party USA. Earlier articles analyzed the RCP's attack upon Enver Hoxha's book *Imperialism and the Revolution* and demonstrated how the RCP's defense of Mao Tsetung Thought attacked fundamental teachings of Marxism-Leninism including the role of the proletariat, the role of the Marxist-Leninist party and the suppression of the bourgeoisie. Significantly these revisions are not limited to the RCP's stand toward China but rather infect the RCP's work as a whole. In this article we will draw some conclusions about what the RCP represents today in the United States and as a part of an international revisionist trend based upon Mao Tsetung Thought.

### A Party of Mao Tsetung Thought

The RCP has worked hard to become known as the great defender of Mao Tsetung Thought in the US over the last year. RCP cadre and supporters attacked the Chinese Embassy in Washington, disrupted a press conference with Teng Hsiao-ping and marched through the streets of Washington, San Francisco and Seattle in red blazers and berets waving the "little red book" and posters of Mao Tsetung and the Gang of Four. From coast to coast, the RCP's name has become synonymous with that of Mao Tsetung.

The RCP's great defense of Mao Tsetung Thought flows directly from its revisionist program which states, "Mao Tsetung today represents the struggle of Marxism-Leninism vs revisionism, of the proletariat vs the bourgeoisie. For this reason, the Revolutionary Communist Party proudly raises the banner of Marxism-Leninism, Mao Tsetung Thought, and bases itself upon the application of it to the revolutionary struggle in the US" (p 9).

In fact, the RCP has replaced Marxism-Leninism with Mao Tsetung Thought. In its campaign, "A Fitting Welcome for Teng", its main slogan was "Uphold Mao and the Gang of Four", not "Defend Marxism-Leninism". Those arrested in the course of these demonstrations are known as the "Mao Defendants".

This is no simple matter of words or phrasing. It is not the science of Marxism-Leninism which guides the RCP but an eclectic system of thought which contains within it both "left" and Right revisions of Marxism-Leninism. Mao Tsetung Thought replaces the leading role of the proletariat in the revolutionary struggle with youth, students and lumpen elements and denies the vanguard role of the Marxist-Leninist party, instead advocating a party of contending classes and factional warfare. Mao Tsetung Thought further calls for rights and privileges for the bourgeoisie under socialism instead of its complete suppression as a class.

### A Party of Spontaneity

The RCP also adopted the view of Mao Tsetung Thought that a "single spark can start a prairie fire". For the RCP, this means running after every spontaneous outbreak of protest in hopes that it may be the "spark to start the revolution aflame". For years, the RCP tailed after the spontaneous movement and especially glorified wildcat strikes without regard to whether or not they actually advanced the cause of the working class. This was most evident in their promotion of the miners' wildcats prior to

## "Mao Defenders" Sow Ideological Confusion and Provoke Reaction

the national coal strike in 1977.

Recently the RCP has taken a new tack. With their party in chaos and membership sliced in half as a result of factional infighting, the RCP sought a way to rebuild its ranks. In desperation, the RCP swung "left" in hopes of attracting petty bourgeoisie and lumpen elements with ultra revolutionism. In their press they call for all ex Black Panthers to join the RCP and "rebuild the revolutionary movements of the '60's". They characterize their demonstrations of "red-book waving" as "the most militant demonstrations since the '60's". "The spirit of the Cultural Revolution was coming alive in the streets of Washington", reported the RCP on its anti-Teng demonstrations. "Hearing chants of 'Mao, Mao, Mao Tsetung, Revolution's Gonna Come!', thrilled an enraptured RCP reporter, "a dozen youths came out of a pool hall yelling, changing the chant to 'Revolution's Coming Now!'".

There is a marked connection between the present adventurism of the RCP with its appeal to the declassed elements of the society and the RCP's social origins. The Revolutionary Union — predecessor of the RCP — worshipped the Black Panther Party in the late 1960's and glorified people such as Eldridge Cleaver and Bobby Seale, who openly advocated that the lumpen elements of society were the most revolutionary. Current RCP Chair Bob Avakian and the rest of the founders of the RU were well known for their boot-licking stand toward anything and everything proclaimed by the Panthers. This view of "third world workers" taking the lead in the revolutionary struggle and the denial of the role of the white proletariat is a clear reflection of Mao Tsetung Thought.

The social appeal of the RCP today has not changed in the least. The RCP holds that what is revolutionary are the declassed elements of society. Revolutionary action is translated into adventurist provocations. While the early development of the RU proceeded by tailing after the "third world" leaders of the Panthers, today the RCP is noted for its complete white supremacist attitude which denies the special oppression of the Black masses.

The RCP believes that the true testimonial to its "revolutionary character" is the fact that since the first of the year, more than 200 of its cadre and supporters have been arrested. The RCP is so thoroughly impressed with its ultra-leftism that it proclaims that the police attacks upon its demonstrations were the "most vicious police assault since the '60's". But as most people know, it is not at all difficult to get

arrested in and of itself. This is not an indication of the revolutionary character of anyone or anything.

More importantly, to think that the attack upon its demonstrations is the most vicious police attack since the 1960's flies in the face of reality and clearly indicates how the RCP views itself in relation to the struggle of the masses of people in the US. The RCP would have a difficult time explaining its ridiculous assertion to the Puerto Rican people of Chicago's Humboldt Park, the Black masses in Birmingham who came under police siege for days on end, or the Stearns miners whose families' lives were jeopardized by shots into their homes, and their town turned into an armed encampment of State troopers. The RCP's arrogant, self-inflated view of itself as the maker of revolution contradicts reality as well as the Marxist-Leninist understanding of who it is that really makes revolution.

This infantile leftism which so highlights current RCP activity in no way obliterates its Rightist essence. A cursory examination of its newspaper for the working class, "Revolutionary Worker", shows that the RCP has not abandoned its longstanding view that the only kind of agitation and propaganda the working class is ready for is swear words and "righteous anger" — certainly not Marxism-Leninism. The RCP undertakes "left" adventurist activities for the lumpen and the petty bourgeoisie while dishing up pre digested pabulum for the working class. Swinging widely between "left" adventurism, which can only provoke state attacks on the masses, and rank economism is yet another reflection of the eclectic system of thought, Mao Tsetung Thought, which the RCP so avidly defends.

### American Exceptionalism

Just as the RCP defends the revision of Marxism-Leninism in China under the guise that the concrete conditions in China call for it, the RCP revises Marxism-Leninism in the US. This is not a new development in the US, as the CPUSA, even in its revolutionary period, suffered from American exceptionalism. This is a view that denies the history and experience of the international communist movement on the pretense that conditions in the US are different. Most characteristic of American exceptionalism is the view that belittles the strength and dangerousness of US imperialism. It is a view that holds that US imperialism can transform itself. It is this view which led Earl Browder in the 1930's and '40's to promote the

view that socialism could come about peacefully in the US because of its great "democratic character". This is obviously a view which dovetails closely with the revisionist theory of "three worlds" and calls for aligning with US imperialism against Soviet social imperialism on the basis that US imperialism is no longer a great danger to the world's people.

The RCP continues to hold this theory, even though it now says that it should not be viewed as a strategy.

The RCP has taken up this banner of American exceptionalism. Its stand on the Black Nation in the South is a classic example. It declared that while there once was a Black Nation, today there no longer is. Instead, the RCP says there is a nation of a "new type". Thus it revises the Marxist-Leninist understanding of what constitutes a nation and denies the history of the international communist movement regarding the Black Nation in particular.

Both Chinese revisionism and American exceptionalism express disdain for the international communist movement, its past and present. Both attack comrade Stalin's theory and practice. This is a road the RCP has pursued from its inception. The RCP for years adopted a stand of complete disregard for the international proletariat, pursuing absolutely no contacts with any Marxist-Leninists internationally as if it were the only force in the whole world. This flowed from its arrogant, self-inflated view of itself and is typical of a revisionist force within US imperialism, the greatest oppressor of the world's people in all history. Yet in its attempt to secure a leading role in the international trend of Mao Tsetung Thought, it marched into Europe and demanded that various Marxist-Leninist parties attend its Mao Memorial meeting in New York with no prior contact or understanding of the political views of these parties!

Following its brand of "internationalism", the RCP centers its "attack" against opportunists, not against the Marxist-Leninists and socialist Albania. While genuine Marxist-Leninists are waging the struggle against Chinese revisionism, exposing the source of Chinese revisionism, the alliance between China and US imperialism, the RCP ignores this in order to develop its polemic against Enver Hoxha. By doing so, the RCP covers for the current rulers in Peking by not exposing the very basis upon which they came to power.

And while China launched its attack upon Vietnam and the US bourgeoisie and its apologists like

Joan Baez launch the largest anti-Vietnamese propaganda campaign since the war, the RCP developed a major polemic against Vietnam concluding that there never was socialism in Vietnam and Ho Chi Minh and other Vietnamese revolutionaries were never communists. Who other than the Chinese revisionists can such an attack serve at this time? It is no accident that today the RCP launches such a reactionary attack upon Vietnam, for in the late 1960's it was the RCP's predecessor, the RU, which argued that workers would not oppose the Vietnam War and therefore the education and mobilization of the workers against US aggression should not be carried out! Today they have merely concocted theoretical justifications for their longstanding national chauvinism.

At this time the RCP primarily serves to sow ideological and political confusion among the masses. The bourgeoisie promotes the RCP as the "communists" in the US just as they once promoted the CIA front US Labor Party, (NCLC). The bourgeoisie has given the RCP tremendous press coverage with full page articles in the newspaper and interviews on television. It does this to generate confusion and distrust about communists and communism. "Communists" who run through the streets waving "red books" and posters of Mao Tsetung, dressed in red blazers and berets, who provoke police attacks and wage major campaigns to "free the Mao Defendants" appear infantile in the eyes of the working class. This is as the bourgeoisie wishes it to appear — as though communism and revolution do not apply to the US, but only to other countries and people. This kind of "left" infantile activity is similar to that of the Central Organization of US Marxist-Leninists (COUSML) which once declared that "Chairman Mao is our Chairman".

But though today the provocations of the RCP are aimed to ward the defense of Mao, tomorrow it will become all-out assaults against the revolutionary movement. In other countries, such as Turkey, the counterparts of the RCP have murdered genuine Marxist-Leninists. These forces, like the RCP, are social fascists which speak of socialism in words but carry out the activity of fascists. In 1974, the RCP sided with the Ku Klux Klan against the Black masses in Boston. Tomorrow the RCP will escalate these attacks. Just as the NCLC launches attacks against progressive people and communists, so too has the RCP. While at this time the attacks against our Party by the RCP have been few, we have no doubt but that these will mount.

In 1968 several of the leading members of our Party recognized the true revisionist essence of the RCP, then the RU. This view has only been confirmed and deepened over time and developments in the class struggle. On the road ahead the struggle against Mao Tsetung Thought and the RCP will sharpen greatly as they are exposed before the eyes of the masses as serving the bourgeoisie and enemies of the working class.

The complete set of four articles on the RCP is available for \$1.00 per set plus \$1.00 postage per order. Write UNITE! Box 6206 Chicago Illinois 60680 USA

## International

UNITE! photo



Third International Anti-Fascist and Anti-Imperialist Youth Meeting



Mara (left), for years an internationalist singer against imperialism and fascism, brought the audience to their feet and proved that her "guitar" is a weapon (Vanguardia Obrera photo)

for indeed your mouth must be wide open to spit out the imperialist culture and to allow the heart born songs of liberation to leap out

### A Story of Choking

Germany is an occupied country. Thousands of U.S. soldiers are stationed there. Besides the obvious political repression which is part of their presence, the military occupation serves to import into German life some of the most degenerate aspects of U.S. imperialist culture. The German youth described cities where U.S. troops are stationed with their long rows of gambling and prostitution houses, and where gangs of U.S. and German punks terrorize the residents, cities with disco, drunkenness and the drug culture spilling into the streets and schools of German youth, choking them and pulling them ever deeper into the same desperate conditions suffered by the youth of the U.S.

But undaunted by this barrage of imperialist propaganda, the peoples' cultural front in both Germany and Spain is advancing. And perhaps the most fiery of all the cultural presentations were those of the Turkish delegation. In a fierce reflection of the political crisis in Turkey, the delegates whirled, danced and sang several hundred youth of many different countries into a pinwheel of revolutionary color, swirling with the boundless enthusiasm of the masses for socialism and the open mouthed yearning for liberation.

It was during one of these festivals, after a crowd raising performance of "Yankee Go Home", that the delegation representing the working and oppressed people of the U.S. performed American and South American songs of the struggle against U.S. imperialism. Our Spanish comrades exclaimed their support by proclaiming that "we sang with an open mouth".

# A Flowering of Proletarian Culture

Third in a Series by  
Dave Brand

The bus rolled through the darkening Spanish countryside, through drylands much like the wheat growing American West. But few stalks of vital grain grow here. Like the Romans of fifteen centuries ago who poisoned the fields of their colonies with salt, American imperialism has mowed down the agricultural industry in Spain so as to enslave it to the costly practice of importing food stuffs.

The destruction of the national agricultural industry is not the only poison introduced by American imperialism. Rolling off the highway into a brightly lit truck stop, passengers stumble inside to find themselves in a barrage of U.S. culture. The serialized movie "Rich Man, Poor Man" blares from the wall-mounted TV, preaching that any working class Joe in the U.S. can become rich if he plays his cards right. The only "competition" to this imperialist bumbo is the boogie-woogie-woogie of U.S. disco music leaping from the juke box.

Imperialism means the domination of nations — the domination of the national economy, political system and the domination of the national culture by the imperialist

culture

Hours later as the bus pulled into the Third International Meeting of Anti-imperialist and Anti-Fascist Youth in Valencia, Spain, the question of culture, the question of the battle for the minds of the masses, would be taken up for solution.

### "My Guitar Is a Weapon" — Spanish Folksinger

In the shade of tents, lean-to's and woven reed shelters, guitars appeared about mid-day — the French delegation practicing for their evening performance, the German delegation singing a song written by communists in Hitler's concentration camps, the Spanish youth repeatedly breaking into a song called "Que Se Vaya los Yanquis de Aquí" (Yankee Go Home). You could hear the slow tones of the Turkish delegation's accordion rising above their mountain of literature, posters and pins. Off to the side, representatives of each delegation joined together in an international choral, led by a Spanish folksinger and aided by a battery of translators, singing revolutionary songs in strange tongues, learned syllable by syllable but all on the familiar theme of liberation.

Upraised hands grasp paint brushes as delegates demonstrate

their wall painting skills on huge murals showing the revolutionary struggle in the world today. These are the hands which must move swiftly in the night so that the workers at the factories or the train stations will be greeted in the morning by a brightly colored wall of revolutionary instruction, rather than the crude letters of fascist insignia or the half painted victims of police interruptions.

Our Spanish hosts had orchestrated this flowering of anti-imperialist culture at the conference. Every revolutionary organization in any country knows that a battle must be fought on the cultural front. The imperialists in any country package their ideas and values in the glitter and cellophane of TV, theatre, music and print, ideas intended to confuse and paralyze the revolutionary movement. Opposing this is the democratic and socialist and folk culture of the country, a rallying point in the struggle to rescue a nation from imperialist domination.

Throughout the days you could hear discussions on the backward influence of Bob Dylan on the French proletariat, the international contributions of Woody Guthrie and the revolutionary and counter revolutionary aspects of jazz, rock and roll and

disco. These discussions were among members of nations oppressed by U.S. imperialism, among revolutionaries who are fighting to keep U.S. imperialism's culture from driving their national cultures into the basements of museums.

### With a Wide Open Mouth

The Communist Party of Spain/ML (PCE/ML) and the Association of Workers' Assemblies (AOA) have placed great emphasis on mobilizing the artists of Spain for the fight against fascism, the fight for democracy and socialism. On several evenings our Spanish hosts presented major cultural events in the life of Spain. Poets from the oppressed nations in Spain, playwrights and musicians from every corner of the country lent their talents to the struggle for liberation.

It was during one of these festivals, after a crowd raising performance of "Yankee Go Home", that the delegation representing the working and oppressed people of the U.S. performed American and South American songs of the struggle against U.S. imperialism. Our Spanish comrades exclaimed their support by proclaiming that "we sang with an open mouth".

## Friends of UNITE! Oppose KKK

From a Worker Correspondent

Fremont, California — Friends who signed up at the Birmingham Five fundraising party September 8th, came out on the afternoon of the 15th to help leaflet against Klan activities in the East Bay area, especially in the white working class community of Fremont. The Party's leaflet was especially addressed to white workers and stressed the need for white Black unity against the capitalist minority and their state apparatus, including fascists like the KKK who attempt to whip up divisions and national chauvinism within the working class.

The leafleting was conducted at the Fremont Hub, a central shopping mall in Fremont, and was very successful — the main problem being that we ran out of leaflets in less than an hour. Almost all the shoppers expressed solidarity with our stand against

the KKK, and in particular, many older white workers recounted experiences they had had during the Klan terror many years ago in Iowa, Missouri and Texas. We received a few \$1 donations for the Birmingham Five and sold "Death to the Klan!" but tons.

All the leaflets were enthusiastic about the action and are planning to return with similar leaflets again and again.

## Benefit for Birmingham Anti-Klan Fighters

Oakland, California — A party sponsored by UNITE! and Friends of UNITE! was held in Oakland on September 8 to raise money and support for the five anti-Klan fighters arrested in Birmingham in July. About \$130 was raised and between forty and fifty people attended, including workers from General Motors, Ford, Caterpillar and other plants.

During a brief discussion period, several important points were raised. A worker from the Naval Air Base told of a recent police killing of a shop steward in the union. A Party representative gave an update on what was going on in Birmingham and brought out the special importance of white working class people taking up the struggle against the Klan. A UNITE! spokesperson announced that leafletting about the Klan would take place and urged people to sign up. A worker from GM made the point that our real enemy is the rich or ruling class and the Klan serves to divert the fight against our true enemies and causes divisions among workers.

The Party consolidated contacts and supporters and strengthened our commitment to fight the Klan and all forces which seek to divide the working class. The spirit of the meeting was lively and the atmosphere allowed the guests to talk and discuss freely. Everyone also had a lot of fun dancing, eating and drinking. Overall it was a successful mixture of fundraising, socializing and political discussion.

Death to the Klan!

## Enver Hoxha's Reflections on China

July 28, 1971

Irrespective that China and Albania were not in agreement with the Paris talks, in the final analysis, this was the business of the Vietnamese. We could not stop them. On the other hand, we had to continue and did continue to assist their liberation war even more, to expose the atrocities of the Americans, and to be consistent in our stand. We remained consistent in our support for Vietnam's war, but not China. When the war was still going on, when the Americans were killing and bombing in Vietnam and the whole of Indochina, China held secret talks with the Americans in which the agreement was reached that Nixon should go to Peking and, as it turned out, discussions about Vietnam were also held.

p 576

November 22, 1971

From the time it was announced that Nixon was to go to meet Mao Tse-tung in Peking, the fire went out in Paris and the smoke from it came out in China. Apparently, this cold shower was poured on this conference without consultation with and without the approval of the Vietnamese who were very angry and allowed their anger with the Chinese to show clearly.

Thus, according to these facts, we are forced to the conclusion that these matters will be discussed with Nixon not only in Peking, but also in Moscow. Nixon has two horses in his team for the course of the war in Vietnam. If one goes "lame", the other pulls the chariot of American imperialism.

p 620 21

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# Oil Deal: New Chains for Mexico

Are we about to see the meteoric rise of the Mexican nation fueled by the vast supply of oil at its command? Will we see, like in the Mid East, one of the world's poorest nations, for years under the heel of US imperialism, crawl out of the economic base ment to challenge the imperialist nations of the world? These are the visions painted by the bourgeois newspapers around the US Mexico oil deal. Visions of a Mexico with national pride, of "third world" liberation, of oil rich cam pesinos becoming the sheiks of Latin America. These are the vi sions being used to sell a trade agreement which will shackle Mexico ever tighter to the imperialist butcher block.

The chains of Mexico's slavery to world imperialism and to US imperialism are being forged in the heat of the worldwide "energy hunger" by the pounding of two imperialist hammers. The first is debt. Mexico, already saddled by a huge debt to the US, does not have the capital to develop its oil resources.

The second imperialist hammer is the terms related to the imperialist loans needed by Mexico. The profits gained from Mexico's oil will not be used to develop Mexico's independent means of production, Mexico's own national economy. These are the ham mers of imperialism which have been used in Indochina, Puerto Rico, India, Canada and around the world. These are the hammers which will never be stopped by such "deals", but which can be silenced only by popular revolution.

## The New Energy Deal — Forging the Chains

After two years of on again, off again talks, the US and Mexico have reached an agree ment which will govern the sale of

Mexican natural gas to US com panies.

Signing this agreement is ex pected to produce a "more pleasant" atmosphere for the Jimmy Carter — Lopez Portillo talks taking place in late September. These talks will cover a wide variety of topics, from immigra tion to vegetable imports, from tariffs to energy, from smuggling to crime to tuna quotas. Mexico hopes to use its oil reserves to break the historic economic domi nance of the US which owns over 80% of Mexico's foreign debt, and to win some measure of "respect" from the US. Says Foreign Minister Castaneda: "We would like to see the US treat us as an adult country capable of managing its own affairs."

Mexico has expressed a desire to exploit its oil reserves slowly, limiting production to 2.5 billion barrels a day by 1982. To develop its energy reserves Mexico must rely heavily on foreign capital. Rapid development would only increase its high foreign indebtedness and lead to runaway inflation at home. Mexican planners see Mexico as a Latin American Taiwan — American owned factories with Mexican labor — producing cheap shoes, clothes, textiles and electronics for the US. Because Mexico will not concentrate its oil revenues on increasing production of the means of production (raw materials, steel, rail roads, heavy machinery and especially equipment for oil production) it will have to depend on the US to supply these crucial materials. Thus, oil will not end US imperialism's historic hold on Mexico, but as in Iran, Venezuela and Nigeria, will intensify it.

This situation would only in crease the poverty of the Mexican masses, which could lead to a si tuation similar to what happened

in Iran. The high expectations of the Mexican people for an improv ed standard of living as a result of the new oil wealth will be dashed, exposing the Mexican bourgeoisie and inflaming resistance.

## Interimperialist Strife

Japan and Germany, as well as lesser capitalist countries like Italy and Spain also thirst for Mexico's huge oil reserves. In an effort to play the imperialists off against each other and reduce their staggering foreign debt, Mexico is encouraging Japanese and European oil buyers to recipro cate by offering loans, direct investments and technology at more favorable terms. For ex ample, Japan will get 100,000 barrels of oil a day for 10 years. In return, Japan's Export Import Bank and a group of commercial banks will lend PEMEX \$500 million at 8% annually.

Finally, Mexico will use its oil as a way of ensuring the eco

nomic dependence of a number of oil poor Latin American coun tries. While this will profit the Mexican bourgeoisie, it will not free it from US imperialism.

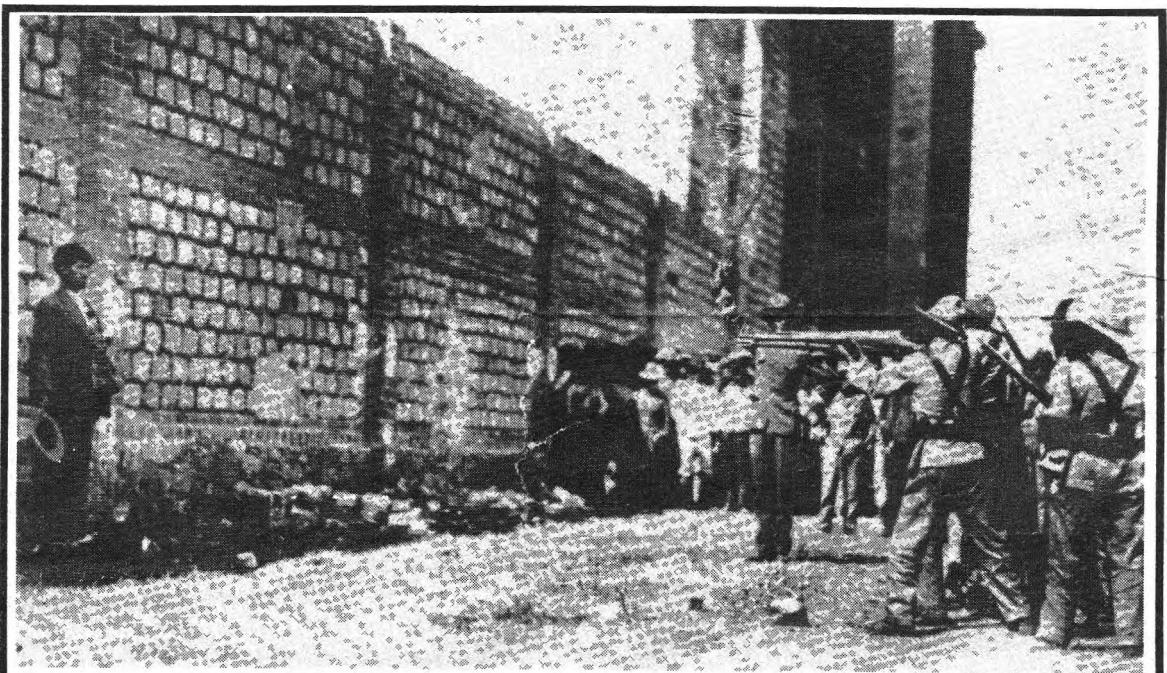
Though Mexico wants to limit oil production to 2.5 million barrels daily, domination by the US and other imperialist powers can alter these plans. With more crises brewing in the Mid East, the US and its allies can be relied upon to pressure Mexico to in crease oil production. Saudi Arabia, similarly dependent on US imperialism, has received Jimmy Carter's high praise for in creasing production by a million barrels a day until the end of the year "in order to settle down the world oil market." That this kind of pressure can be brought to bear on Mexico is only too well known by the Mexican people.

The Western Hemisphere, from Canada to Argentina, has for de cades been the main external re serve of US imperialism. Domi

nation and exploitation of this sphere of influence is an impor tant base for US imperialism's global expansion. Within this framework, Mexico has been a key country. With her huge labor force and bountiful raw materials, Mexico remains a crucial strong hold for US imperialism.

Politically, the Mexican bourgeoisie has often served the inter ests of the US. Parading under "revolutionary" trappings, the ruling party in Mexico, the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI) has advanced the interests of the US and worked to infect the revolutionary move ments of Central and South Amer

rica. Given the strategic nature of Mexico, US imperialism will try to use Mexico's oil bonanza to tangle Mexico even more tightly into the US web. Mexico is a prize the US imperialists cannot afford to lose. ■



Fortino Samano, Mexican revolutionary, faces a firing squad in 1916. The Mexican bourgeoisie and US imperialism have continued their policy of savage repression against Mexican revolutionaries and liberation fighters. Today they target the Communist Party of Mexico/ML especially for murder and imprisonment.

## "Thousands Fell in Struggle"

### from the Communist Party of Mexico/ML

The following is an excerpted translation of a communique from the Third Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Mexico/Marxist Leninist. It is translated from the August 17 1979 issue of *Rotter Morgen*, the newspaper of the Communist Party of Germany/Marxist Leninist. We reprint this translation here because of the critical importance of building close ties between the proletariat and oppressed people of Mexico and the United States.

"For the Victory of Proletarian Revolution in Mexico", Letter of the Communist Party of Mexico/ML

Our Party has at its disposal the great revolutionary experience of the proletariat, and it rests

upon the tradition of heroic strug gle of Cananea and Rio Blanco of 1907, the North American Indians of 1898, the Army of Zapata of 1910 to 1917, the uprisings of the workers and peasants in the '20's and the revolutionary trade union movement of the '30's. Our Party fulfills the last will of the thousands upon thousands of cadre who were murdered by the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie and the thousands of communists who fell in struggle and in revolution ary work.

The actual situation in which our people live today, as well as their struggle against it, has long been concealed on the international plane. The North American imperialists and the Mexican big bourgeoisie like to present our country as a "democratic model." The Soviet and Chinese revisionists have also joined in on this design. They declare the Mexican bourgeoisie to be "progressive and anti-imperialist." They openly defend this bourgeoisie and afford it every support. The Chinese revi

sionists in particular have received the representatives of the Mexican bourgeoisie with great pomp — the very moment when it was suppressing and murdering our people, having demonstrators shot down and killing thousands of Mexicans.

October 2, 1968 500 killed  
June 6, 1971 104 killed  
May/June 1971 2000 peasants murdered in the state of Hidalgo  
1976 400 peasants murdered in Guerrero

These are numbers that the international press has concealed, just as it passes over in silence the fact that our people are oppressed. Some of our comrades have already lost their lives on account of this repression, others have been arrested and sentenced to long prison terms, and many others are sought.

Our people, the working class at their head, struggle against the Mexican big bourgeoisie and North American imperialism,

against the capitalist system that forces miserable living conditions upon us — a system that keeps 70% of the workers jobless or un deremployed, a system which has brought forth a process of infla tion whereby inside of five years money has lost 80% of its value, a system that keeps itself in power only through the strictest re pression and denies to the people every democratic right. Today, when the reactionaries of every shade are sharpening their attacks against the international proletari at, when North American imperialism and "Soviet" social imperial ism have gotten a new and dangerous enemy of all the peo ples on their side and the super powers are intensifying their war preparations, when the world finds itself in a complex situation — today the true Marxist Leninists more than ever have the important task of taking the matter of proletarian revolution firmly in hand.

Regardless of the concrete fea tures or the degree of develop

ment in the various capitalist countries, the common task of our epoch is fixed for all of us to destroy capitalism and estab lish socialism. In our country the struggle of our Party is directed not only against imperialism and the Mexican big bourgeoisie as well as their direct agents. It is also directed against their hidden agents, the revisionists of the type of Verdugos of the Communist Party of Mexico, Talamantes of the Socialist Workers Party, against trotskyists, Maoists, etc. We know that the laws of history pre scribe the road, but that history is made by the peoples. Even by our people, which has long had e nough of the sixty years of fascist "democracy", which has had e nough of hearing about and seeing a democracy where only the big bourgeoisie enjoys freedom while there is only hunger, oppression and fascism for the people. Our people know that only through a most courageous struggle for the dictatorship of the proletariat can a real democracy be achieved. ■